product of crystallite sizes as found from the diffraction peaks of indexes of planes (020), (101) and (200) is not smaller than 200,000nm^3.

14. [(New)] A zinc borate according to claim 1 wherein a volume-based median diameter as found by a laser diffraction method is in a range of from 1.0 to 6.0μm.

15. [(New)] A zinc borate according to claim 13 wherein a volume-based median diameter as found by a laser diffraction method is in a range of from 1.0 to 6.0μm.

16. [(New)] A flame-retarding agent or a flame-retarding assistant comprising the zinc borate of claim 1.

17. [(New)] A flame-retarding agent or a flame-retarding assistant comprising the zinc borate of claim 14.

18. [(New)] A flame-retarding agent or a flame-retarding assistant comprising the zinc borate of claim 15.

19. [(New)] A smoke-suppressing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 1.

20. [(New)] A smoke-suppressing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 14.

21. [(New)] A smoke-suppressing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 15.

22. [(New)] An antibacterial agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 1.

23. [(New)] An antibacterial agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 14.

24. [(New)] An antibacterial agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 15.

25. [(New)] A water glass-curing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 1.

26. [(New)] A water glass-curing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 14.

27. [(New)] A water glass-curing agent comprising the zinc borate of claim 15.--